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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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Military Units in Stara Zagora

1. A horse-drawn artillery unit of about regiment size is established in Stara Zagora.¹ This unit participated in maneuvers in South Bulgaria in the summer of 1953. As of 1951-52 it was equipped with an unknown number of 75 mm. field guns, 105 mm. howitzers and 75 mm. mountain guns. Privates were equipped with 8 mm. carbines and 7.62 mm. submachine guns with drum magazines.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC					
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- 25X1
2. A self-propelled artillery unit is located in the traditional barracks of the 12 Rifle Regiment and the 8 Division Supply Battalion in Stara Zagora. As of October 1953, this unit was equipped with equipment consisting of 30 ton chassis mounting a 75 mm. gun and a machine gun. 10-15 of these in the barracks park. There are about 800 privates in the unit. During the summer this unit moves to a permanent encampment located about 1000 meters west of Gorno Pancharevo village (N 42-33, E 25-35), Kazanluk Okoliya. 25X1
3. There is a "Baykal" Border Guard training unit of about battalion size located in Stara Zagora. This unit is equipped with "Maksim" light and heavy machine guns and with Soviet rifles and sub-machine guns. 25X1
4. There is a Trudovak unit of about battalion size with headquarters in Stara Zagora. About one company is located in Stara Zagora while the other elements are away on construction projects. In 1953, this unit was engaged in construction work at Bulgarovo village (N 42-37, E 27-19), Burgas Okoliya. The commander of this unit is Major Radi Todorov. 25X1
- Another officer in this unit is Captain Patanov (fnu) 25X1
- Air Force Units Stara Zagora
5. About 200 Air Force officers commute daily by special bus from Stara Zagora to the Stara Zagora air field located about 500 meters south of Kolyu Ganchevo village (N 42-24, E 25-42). 25X1
7. There is a parachute training unit of unknown size and a supply unit which includes shoemaking and tailoring shops at the Stara Zagora Airfield. About 200 civilians are employed in these shoe and clothing shops.
8. There are about 20 single engine monoplanes and one three-engine transport plane at the field. The transport plane is used for parachute training flights.
- Airfield Yambol 25X1
9. there are two airfields in the vicinity of Yambol, one of which accomodates jet planes. 25X1
10. Two or three times a week jet planes in groups of four to ten fly over Stara Zagora from the direction of Yambol and return in the direction of Yambol.
- Division Headquarters Khaskovo 25X1
11. In 1947, 8 Division headquarters and support units moved from Stara Zagora to Khaskovo. although it may have been renamed, the division headquarters located currently in Khaskovo is essentially what was formerly the 8 Division because former employees of the 8 Division headquarters are currently working there. 25X1
- Rifle Regiment Kharmanli
12. The 12 Rifle Regiment moved to Kharmanli in 1947 at the time that the 8 Division moved to Khaskovo. As of 1951 this regiment was still in Kharmanli. 25X1

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Recall of Reservists

13. [] Thirty-five and 36-year-old reservists and reserve officers are recalled for 30-45 days training. Those recalled from Stara Zagora are generally assigned to units in Khaskovo, Yambol, and Northern Bulgaria. Returnees from training refuse to discuss their training activities. 25X1
14. [] In February 1953 about 40 men from Mamarchevo village of the 1917, 1918, 1919, and 1920 classes were called up for two months training. 25X1

Pre-Induction Physical Examinations

15. [] In August 1953, members of the 1935 and 1936 classes of Mamarchevo village were called to Elkhovo State Hospital for a preliminary military physical examination. This consisted only of having chest X-rays and having their occupations recorded. 25X1
16. [] On 4 October members of the 1933 class from Filipovo village were called to Topolovgrad for a military physical examination. friends.one was deferred. on his request. because his elder [] 25X1

Reserve Officers

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17. According to a September 1953 graduate of the reserve officers training school in Sofia, only those graduating from OCS as first lieutenants will be kept on active duty.

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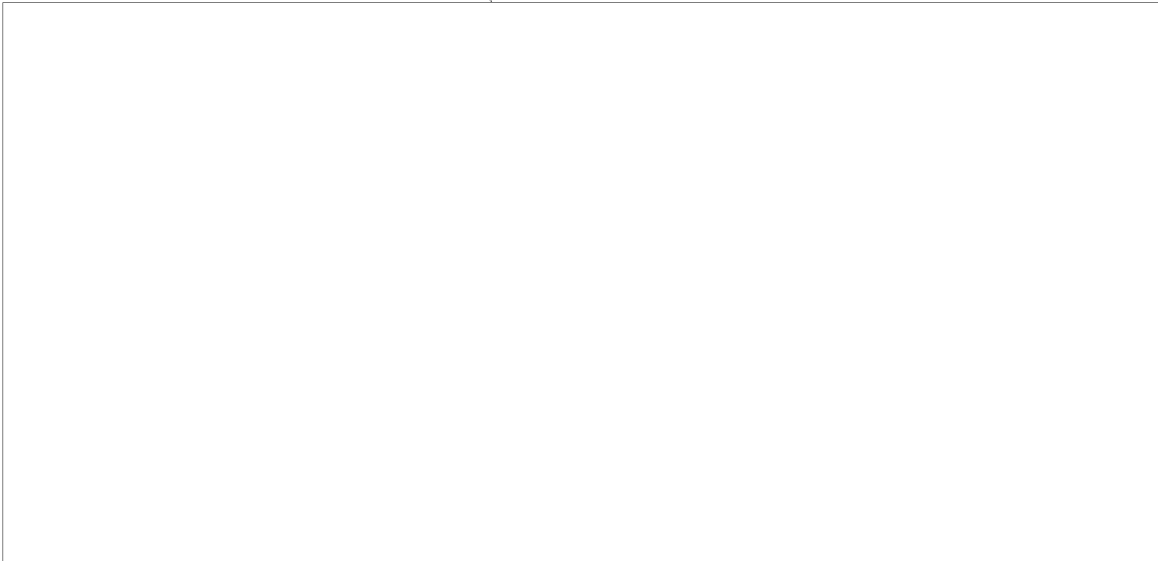
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Ammunition Dump

21. An ammunition dump is located about three kilometers west of Chevapovo village (N 42-01, E 26-08) in the direction of Kharmanli. A sign posted at the site stated that it was an ammunition dump and entry was prohibited. There were two or three 30 x 10 meter half buried buildings in the dump area [redacted] 5-6 guards in the area.

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